

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1048

S E C R E T USNATO 1870

EXDIS

FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON
FROM AMBASSADOR BRUCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, XG

SUBJ: BRIEFING OF NAC ON MIDDLE EAST

REF: (A) STATE 076013; (B) STATE 076736

1. PER REF A, I WILL ADVISE SYG LUNS AND ALLIES THAT WE APPRECIATE ALLIES INTEREST IN BRIEFING ON MIDDLE EAST AND REGRET THAT SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE CONCLUSION OF THE SECRETARY'S MISSION MADE IT IMPRACTICAL TO DISPATCH A MEMBER OF HIS PARTY TO BRUSSELS TO PARTICIPATE IN A REINFORCED NAC SESSION. HOWEVER, FOR THE REASONS GIVEN BELOW, I WILL DEFER FOR NOW INFORMING LUNS AND THE ALLIES THAT I AM PREPARED TO BRIEF THE NAC ON MIDDLE EAST.

2. I FEEL THAT A FRANK EXPOSITION OF THE POSITION OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED COULD LEAD TO UNNECESSARY SPECULATION BY ALLIES AS TO BLAME FOR BREAKDOWN IN MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS. MY INCLINATION IS TO TELL SYG LUNS THAT--GIVEN PRESENT IMPASSE IN SECRETARY'S STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH AND FACT U.S. GOVERNMENT IS CURRENTLY REASSESSING ITS MIDDLE EAST POLICY--IT WOULD BE BETTER TO DEFER BRIEFING THE NAC AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, PER REF B, I COULD SUGGEST TO LUNS THAT SUBJECT OF MIDDLE EAST DISCUSSION BE DEFERRED UNTIL MAY 29-30 MEETING IN BRUSSELS. REF B HAS SUGGESTED MIDDLE EAST AMONG TOPICS WHICH COULD BE DISCUSSED AT THAT
SECRET

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MEETING.

3. SHOULD WASHINGTON FEEL THAT BRIEFING THE NAC WOULD BE USEFUL ANYWAY, I AM PREPARED TO DO SO BUT WOULD APPRECIATE TALKING

POINTS OR SPEAKING NOTES TO COVER THOSE POINTS
WASHINGTON IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN GETTING ACROSS TO OUR
ALLIES.

4. ACTION: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.BRUCE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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